

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)

Thursday, September 29, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: *Chairman Mike Lawlor*, Under Secretary, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, OPM; *Josh Howroyd*, Legislative Program Manager, Department of Children and Families, *Ariel Ritch*, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection; *Scott Semple*, Commissioner, Department of Corrections, *Carlton Giles*, Board of Pardons and Paroles, *Laura Stefon*, Department of Education, *Kevin Kane*, Chief State Attorney, Chief State's Attorney Office, *Karen Jarmoc*, Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence; *Alejandro Arbelaiz*, Department of Social Services, *Gary Roberge*, Court Support Services Division, *Sean Connley*, Department of Veterans Affairs, *Dr. Noriko*, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, *Laura Cordus*, CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence, *Brian Carlow*, Public Defenders Office, *Laurie Deneen*, Member of the Public

I. Introductions

This meeting was broadcast on CT-N: <http://www.ct-n.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=13280>
The Monthly Indicators Report can be found on the OPM website:
http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?a=2976&Q=383680&opmNav_GID=1797

II. Welcome and Policy Update

- a. Special guests at the meeting were from the Polish National Police, including Col. Andrzej Szymczyk, First Deputy Commander-in-Chief and several of his colleagues.
- b. This week the FBI released their crime statistics for the nation. Connecticut has reduced in reported crime last year since the previous year, the second greatest reduction in the United States, behind North Dakota. <http://www.dpsdata.ct.gov/dps/ucr/ucr.aspx>
- c. Women and pretrial detainees are not following the same downward trends, despite a dramatic reduction in the prison population in Connecticut.

III. Approval of Minutes from June 30, 2016

- a. Minutes were approved.

1) Commission Correspondence

- a. Attorney Rachel Baird raised concerns about the CJPAC member list on the website, now it has been updated to reflect the current members. She also expressed concerns about the accuracy of information disseminated regarding eligibility for pardons (15:00-17:20). Chairman Lawlor has communicated with her, and the handout for offenders will be updated by the board.

V. Presentations

- a. Ivan Kuzyk and Kyle Baudoin, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, OPM presented Connecticut's Declining Prison Population: Some Contributing Factors

http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjcjpac/20160930connecticuts_declining_prison_populati_on.pdf

b. Karen Jarmoc and Dan Cargill from Connecticut Collation Against Domestic Violence presented Connecticut Domestic Fatality Review Report: Findings and Recommendations http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjcjpac/20160930ctdvfatality_review_ppt.pdf

VI. Agency Updates

Members provided updates on their agencies and latest initiatives.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services – No new news. Dr. Jeff Swanson was here last year introducing the research we were doing, since then they will publish soon, and Dr. Swanson will present on this soon.

Public Defenders Office – Moving forward with IT initiatives, case management electronic system is up and running. Thanks to the judicial department for daily feeds. This project came in on-time and under \$2 million. Internal administrative functions have also been made electronic, and this initiative is up and running as well, which saves time and money.

CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence - At York last week training 40 members of the staff, and spent time talking about receiving disclosures about sexual abuse and abusive histories. Met with staff and incarcerated women as well. Last March, governor created a working group to address untested sexual assault kits; well over 90% of those kits have made it to the lab, and testing has started on those kits. CT received a sexual assault testing kit grant from the federal government, those dollars are being used to fund the testing on those kits. As DNA goes into databases, being able to collaborate with others regarding these cold cases is important and done with great sensitivity. Sentencing commission special committee on sex offenders, id policy and recommendations on sentencing, supervision, and even possible changes to the registry, the subcommittee is working on both a survey for victims and survivors on line and posted in November, and creating a community survey about their attitudes and concerns about sex offenders in Connecticut.

Court Support Services Division (CSSD) – DOJ Bureau of Justice Assistance, awarded a second smart supervision grant for \$560,000. 2012 awarded a grant to develop curriculum and train officer in scripted items that go to client's criminogenic need. Recidivism rates that went through the training were much lower; developed successful people into coaches to build internal capacity. The grant ran out, but they continued to train their officers. Three goals: Develop information technology capacity, enhance probation officer coaching initiative, and professionalize and formalized the feedback and evaluation. After the first grant process, DOJ asked CSSD to present across the nation as to what they were doing. Other initiatives they are involved in are: MacArthur Grant, Advisory group on pretrial and detention, the no money bond discussion, special committee on sex offenders, and JJPOC with respect to PA 16-147.

State Attorney Office – Working with the center for court innovation about how Connecticut can deal with chronic low level offenders, who are burdening the court systems, have a variety of mental health issues, come into the court system and come back. The police often have to make arrests, but that doesn't mean they have to be charged and go to court, that is an issue with our system. Conference tomorrow at Quinnipiac Law School: Justice Innovation in Times of Change: New Challenges, New Opportunities. There is work being done on cold cases, however many people are upset with law enforcement because of over enforcement of low level crimes and under enforcement of high level crimes.

Department of Correction (DOC) – DOC has been awarded the Second Change act planning and implementation grant, \$1 million award up to three years, collaborating with PCS. The Agency broke the 15,000 barrier in over 20 years. Intent to repurpose a facility for 18-24 year olds, due to the budget, it will be narrowed to a housing unit in a facility, this will be monitored and evaluated in collaboration with the Vera Institute. Parole initiatives to identify KPIs and evaluate changes needed to be made. Collaborate with community colleges to offer programs for inmates. Close the Niantic annex earlier this year and closing portions of Osborne CI, which are a significant cost savings.

Department of Children and Families (DCF)– Presentation at CCJPOC, update on CJTS closure plan, target date of July 1, 2018. Status of closure goals, including community based services and alternative for secure placement. Holding steady at mid-40s for a population, population projections are trending down, it could bottom out at 20 beds needed. Next action step to take inventory of other state facilities to house a small secure program. Making reforms to internal programming at CJTS, a right sizing of staff and continue to make changes to program model.

Department of Education – In the early summer, the Department of Education put out their own portal including student level data regarding attendance, from 2010-2015. Next meeting, there will be an update on STDDI. <http://edsight.ct.gov/SASPortal/main.do>

CT Coalition against Domestic Violence (CCADV)- Hosting a round table this afternoon to talk about the new law that takes affect this Saturday regarding removal of firearms during restraining order and service of restraining orders. October marks the formal launch of the children center on family violence, focusing on research, clinical approach, education and policy.

Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) – NARCAN revivals, \$1.5 million grant to combat heroin and opioid abuse, continue to disrupt drug trafficking and work to enhance community policing and direct people to substance abuse programs. State police have conducted 1,670 screens, 844 high danger cases, and many people were connected directly to services. POST active shooting trainings for employees. New preparedness app for hurricane season, called CTPrepares.

Board of Pardons and Paroles (BOPP)- Started in June implementing the Juvenile reconsideration hearings and that is going well.

Department of Veterans Affairs - The 23rd annual stand down event took place at Rocky Hill Campus, over 900 veterans came to the campus including many public and private agencies were present, and the Governor and Lieutenant Governor. Working to supplement social workers on campus with additional case managers, excited to have this additional resource. Working with DOL to have a rep come to their campus for two days a week to help support resident and community veterans and work with “The Workplace” from Bridgeport. Working with DMHAS to support veterans on campus and off campus. Office of Advocacy and Assistance are now more mobile with lap top computers and phones, so they can meet veterans where they are, and not having to come to the office. Working with DOC to talk about supporting vets coming out of the vets unit, reintegrating them into the community.

VII. Subcommittee Updates

PJOR – no updates

Behavioral health – No meeting over the summer. They will meet on October 20th.

Victim issues – no updates

VIII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IX. Adjournment

Chairman Mike Lawlor adjured the meeting.